■ METRO / A25

Pacquiao denies ex-lover's charges in counter-affidavit

■ BUSINESS / B1

Strong peso is threat to exporters hit hard by rising currency

■ SPORTS / A30

RP's Marcos-era sports czar Mike Keon plans to reclaim title

■ 2BU! / C1

VAT times: Fabulous finds not over P100

SolGen quits; aide claims pressured by Malacañang

By Michael Lim Ubac and Armand Nocum

SOLICITOR GENERAL ALFREDO BENIPAYO resigned yesterday in the midst of a major administration battle in court to defend the legality of President Macapagal-Arroyo's emergency proclamation.

An official at the Office of the Solicitor General told the Inquirer that Malacañang forced Benipayo to step aside.

SOLGEN/A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

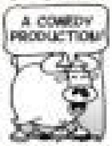
Wednesday, March 15, 2006 · 8 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 97 · P18 · website: www.inq7.net

Batasan 6: Gov't witness should wear 'bayong'

By Michael Lim Ubac and Blanche S. Rivera

IT WAS A POLITICAL DRAMA hatched by "Malacañang Productions" complete with a wardrobe consultant and featuring a modern Makapili as its central character.

BATASAN 6/A4



'We hold nation together'

AFP admits role in keeping GMA in power; Joker says it's the new opposition



EXCLUSIVE FOR COUP PLOTTERS ONLY: Inside Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, double concrete walls topped by barbed wire enclose the newly constructed detention quarters for the alleged military rebels out to oust Ms Arroyo. But Army chief Lt. Gen. Esperon prefers not to call them detention cells but "secured transient quarters." Whatever, it's interesting to note that right across the road is the estate of ex-President Estrada where he's himself under detention. JOAN BONDOC

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Philip C. Tubeza

THE ARMED FORCES OF THE Philippines yesterday acknowledged its crucial role in keeping President Macapagal-Arroyo in power, warning that the nation would fall apart if it gave in to pressure from various power blocs seeking the President's ouster.

Sen. Joker Arroyo said the President had practically become a "hostage" of the military.

"Hostage? In a sense, yes, the President [is a hostage], without [her] admitting it. Every move that she has now [taken], she always asks the military and then the minority (politicians) just keeps on blabbering," Arroyo said in a news conference.

"The one calling the shots now is the military," said Arroyo.

Col. Tristan Kison, Armed Forces spokesperson, told reporters that the military had been the target of destabilization "because we are one of the strong pillars holding the nation."

"If we break, the nation will collapse," Kison said.

He said that the Armed Forces should all the more adhere to the chain of command "especially now we're in a crisis."

WE HOLD/A6

JPE to Jamby: You cheated; but she offers prayers

By TJ Burgonio

UPPING THE ANTE IN HIS ROW WITH SEN. Jamby Madrigal, Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile yesterday accused her of cheating in the 2004 senatorial elections.

Madrigal, who wept on the floor on Monday after a debate with Enrile over the reasons behind the lifting of martial law, refused to comment on Enrile's claims except to say "my conscience is clear."

At a briefing, Enrile, who ironically was himself accused of cheating in a previous sen-

JPE TO JAMBY/A18

Award-winning radio show axed; PCIJ harassed

By Norman Bordadora and Philip C. Tubeza

AN AWARD-WINNING RADIO PROgram has become the first casualty of what Sen. Joker Arroyo described yesterday as President Macapagal-Arroyo's "very dangerous" invasion of the sanctity of the press even without resorting to martial law.

The afternoon program "Ngayon na Bayan" lost its block time on DZRJ just hours after Ms Arroyo declared a state of national emergency on Feb. 24, citing the threats from communist guerrillas, rogue soldiers, politicians and businessmen to unseat her.

"We were told that our show was suspended until further notice," said Danilo Arao, one of the hosts of the show that received the 2002 Golden Dove Award for best public affairs program from the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas.

Arao, head of the University of the Philippines Department of Journalism in Diliman, Quezon City, said the program producers, Bodoc Productions Inc., thought the radio station wanted to use the time to cover political developments.

Arao said Bodoc was later told that the show had been cancelled because of "personal political differences" with the station owner, Ramon Jacinto, the aging rock musician and former brother-in-law of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

But on Monday, the Philippine National Police presented a hooded witness, Jaime Fuentes, at the preliminary investigation of six congressmen, who claimed that Bodoc was a propaganda arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Bodoc host Bonie Carpio denied the

AWARD-WINNING/A11

Gonzalez: PDI stories on aborted coup not seditious or libelous

By Connie E. Fernandez
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—JUSTICE SECRETARY Raul Gonzalez yesterday said the recent series of Inquirer articles on the events leading up to the aborted military coup on Feb. 24 was neither seditious nor libelous.

GONZALEZ/A11

Ping, Bro. Eddie confirm report on transition council

By Philip C. Tubeza and Christian V. Esguerra

OPPOSITION SEN. PANFILO LACSON yesterday confirmed an Inquirer report that a group of military officers had asked him to join a transition council that would have taken over President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration, but said he turned down the offer.

Lacson told the Inquirer that he turned it down, not because becoming a member of the council would have prevented him from running should a "snap" election be held, but because such a body could not "run the country effectively."

"It would be reduced to a debating club," he said. "Even in the most minor issue, the council members would have to first consult their groups before making a decision. And in the first place, how can [the military officers] assume that power will be given to them [later]?"

For his part, Bro. Eddie Villanueva, leader of the Jesus Is Lord (JIL) Movement, said certain military officers had invited him to sit in a planned "council-of-government" or transition council.

The invitation was aired in a series of meetings from October 2005 to January this year, he said.

PING/A6

Fear now grips 3 Bulacan barangays

By Arlyn dela Cruz
Contributor

THE RECENT RASH OF VIOLENCE against militants has heightened the climate of fear gripping some villages in Bulacan, a province with a long history of social unrest.

On Thursday night last week, Bagong Malolos chair Crisanto Teodoro was shot dead in his car by two men on a motorcycle, the 28th militant killed in

FEAR/A8



A PLACE IN THE SUN: President Arroyo and her official guest, New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, take to the beach at the Bohol Beach Club, Tagbilaran, Bohol, after Clark addressed an interfaith meeting of delegates from 15 Asia-Pacific countries held in Cebu City. During Clark's four-day visit, the two leaders are expected to discuss trade, counter-terrorism and rural development. OPS-PIA

Tribal mayor shows democracy works

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

AS RECENTLY AS THE 1970S, YOUNG Teduray in Upi, Maguindanao, would not be caught speaking the [illegible] tongue they had learned from their Christian neighbors, or making friends with their Muslim brothers, for fear of displeasing their elders.

In those days, the Teduray tribe (which comprised 48 percent of the population), the Christian settlers (33 percent) and the Muslims (23 percent) steered clear of one another.

Such was the world of suspicion, hostility and even deadly clashes among neighbors that Upi Mayor Ramon A. Piang, a Teduray, grew up in.

He resolved to make certain changes.

So drastic were the changes that as Piang nears the end of his second term as mayor, the third-class municipality of Upi in the southwestern portion of Maguindanao in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao is now a prime example of democracy at work.

Piang himself, now 54, has been recognized by the Ramon Aboitiz Foundation

TRIBAL/A22

WEATHER FORECAST

[illegible]

NBI inspects Peping's house

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION YESTERDAY CONducted an inspection of the Makati house of Jose "Peping" Cojuangco Jr. to confirm the latter's claim that there was no plot to launch a coup d'etat at a gathering there on Feb. 23.

[illegible]

Out of the country

[illegible]

No extension for Erap testimony – Sandigan

[illegible] AP

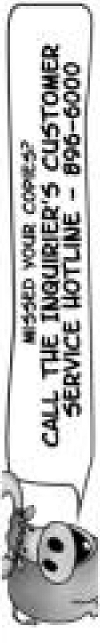









BANCO DE ORO
SUPER LOANS, SUPER PRIZES!
Choose any one of BDO's Super Loans for those extra-added values and a chance to be P100,000 richer in a lucky draw!
Over P2 million in prizes!
2 draws! 60 winners! Greater chance of winning!
Super Charged Auto Loan
Free Gas worth up to P10,000 in Caltex Prepaid Cards!
Super Value HOME LOAN
FREE Gift Certificates from Our Home worth up to P15,000!
Personal Loan
FREE Comprehensive Family Accident Insurance up to P300,000!
Shop More MasterCard
FREE SM Advantage Card; as low as 0.88% balance transfer rate; FREE Annual Fee on the 1st year!
It's easy – every availed loan account or activated BDO Credit Card from March 1 to December 31, 2006 automatically gets a raffle number.
Get a chance to win any of these Super Prizes:
Draw Dates: September 15, 2006 and February 15, 2007
Call 631-8000 or 1-800-10-6318000 toll free today!
Consumer Lending
Guaranteed Low Rates! Fast Processing! Earn Rewards Points!
Simply Super!


MISSED YOUR COPIES?
CALL THE INQUIRER'S CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE - 896-6000


"Now I'm happy in Boracay with nothing on!"
40% OFF
facial care CENTRE
CALL 892-SKIN (7546)
Where Beautiful Skin Happens

Ex-general, kin on hold-departure list

Correction

2 Magdalo boys ordered out of solitary







We hold nation together, says AFP

[illegible]

Cracks in command

[illegible]

If Sengs had joined ...

[illegible]

Sengs remains loyal

[illegible]

Let's not shoot each other

[illegible]

AFP can't go after own men

[illegible]

Military unity

[illegible]

Like martial law

[illegible]

Ping, Bro. Eddie confirm report on transition council

[illegible]

'They're many' in AFP

[illegible]

60, 90, 1,000 days

[illegible]

Seizing power

[illegible]

Whole story

[illegible]

Uncoordinated efforts

[illegible]

AIRLINES IN TROUBLE

Flight of pilots 'serious' – Gokongwei

By [illegible]

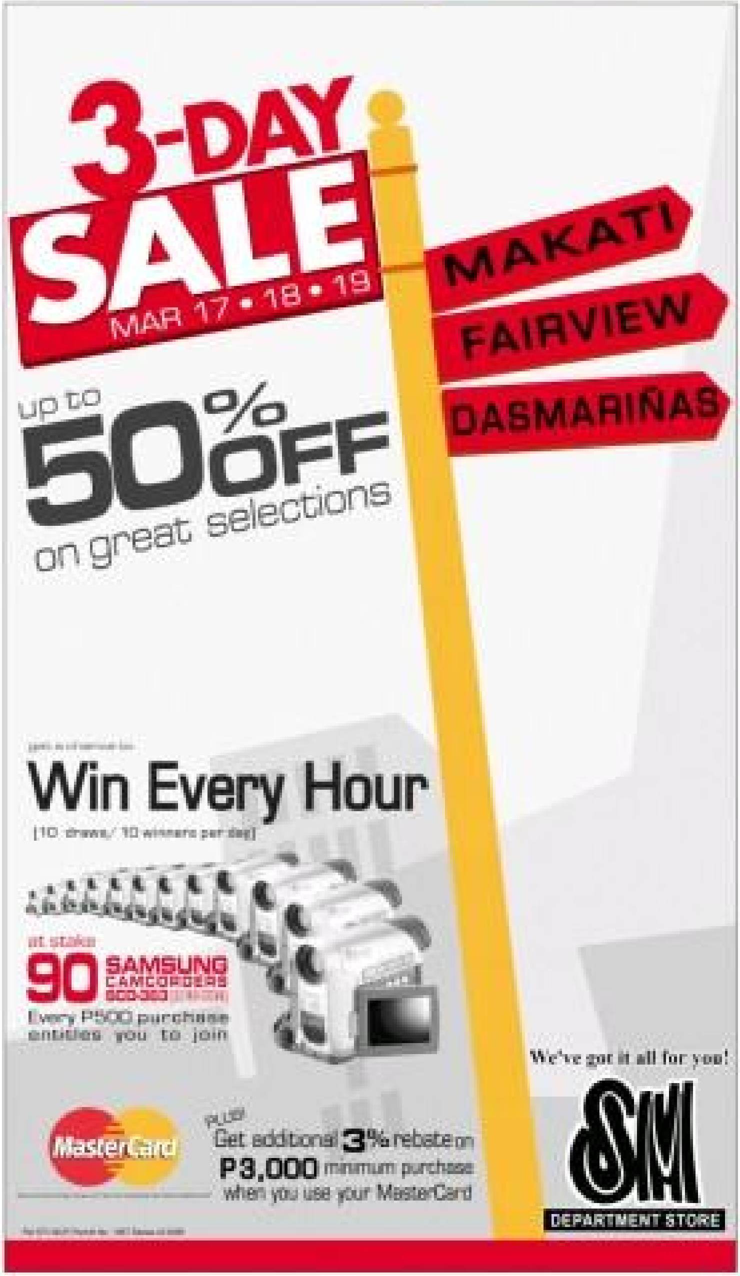
[illegible]

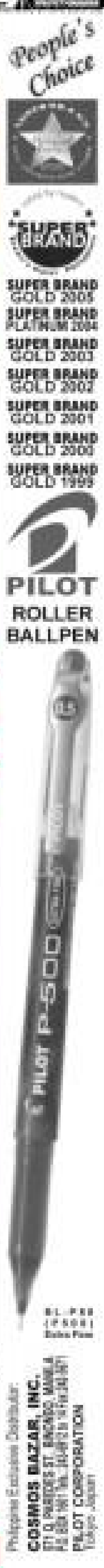
Airport tightens security vs thieves

By [illegible]

[illegible]







SolGen quits; aide claims pressured by Malacañang

Fear now grips 3 Bulacan barangays

Suspected NPAs?

No more cackling chickens

Burying the memory

Cash, jewelry taken

Possible motive

Palparan blamed

Rebels are hurting

More killings

Sleepless nights

Batasan 6: Gov't witness should wear 'bayong'

Grumbling stomach

New employment

Blaming the Left

What went before

[illegible]

JPE to Jamby: You cheated; she offers prayers for enlightenment

From page A1

[illegible]

Supporting affidavits

[illegible]

Issues personalized

[illegible]

Stroke

[illegible]

Cooling-off period

[illegible]

NBI wants damning tape vs Gen. Lim

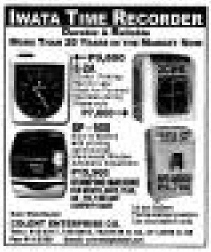
Marlon Z. Dela [illegible]



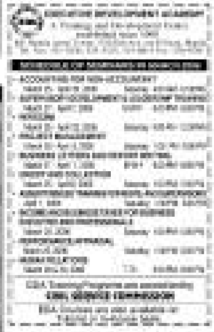






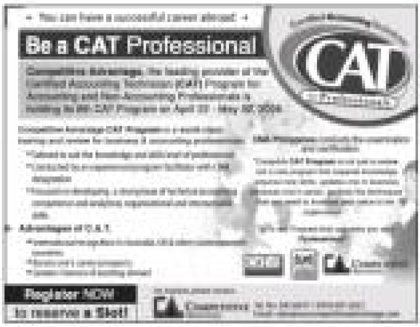


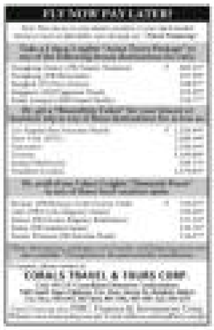




13 more Customs officials sacked

By Lolick Salomena














Shop All Day All Night
ROBINSONS
Midnight plus 2-day
Summer Sale
Up To 50% Off On Great Selections
March 17: Up to 12 midnight
March 18 to 19: Regular Mall Hours
a world to discover
ROBINSONS Malls
MAGIC 89.9
PARTICIPATING MALLS: Robinsons Galleria • Robinsons Place Pioneer • Robinsons Place Manila • Robinsons Metro East • Robinsons Cainta • Robinsons Place Novaliches
Robinsons Starmills Pampanga • Robinsons Place Angeles • Robinsons Place Imus • Robinsons Place Dasmariñas • Robinsons Town Mall Los Baños • Robinsons Place Sta. Rosa

Award-winning radio show axed; PCIJ harassed

Gov't does anything it wants

Police attempt to search PCIJ

Harassment

PCIJ staff worried



CORONEL

Gonzalez…



GONZALES

OPINION



Command responsibility

EDITORIAL

Why gov't attempts to control media will fail

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Newspeak

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Allende heir at the helm in Chile

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



'Responsible' headlines

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



Table manners

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Why Filipino

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan



Edsa gave the world just a glimpse of what RP can do

Liberal Party tradition

GSIS concerned with pensioners' condition

When democracy is a farce

Responsible and independent GMA 7

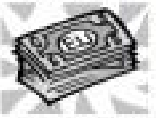
Hitches hounding NorthRail project

Roundup

Tree planting urged

Airport cop slain

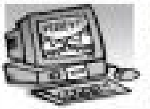
EU help for health



Laguna group revived

Suspended cops

Festival live online



'Last Two' raided

Health exec probed



THE PHILIPPINE CHINESE Charitable Association Inc., which owns and operates the Chinese General Hospital and Medical Center (CGHMC) and the CGH-College of Nursing and Liberal Arts, ...

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE MODERN RAILway project NorthRail has suffered hitches in the last four months, but these have been because of the government's aim to install a monitoring system, ensure proper design and reduce costs, an official of the state-owned North Luzon Railways Corp. said.

Thieves take steel beams of FVR Megadike

Nutribun wins praise among Baguio execs

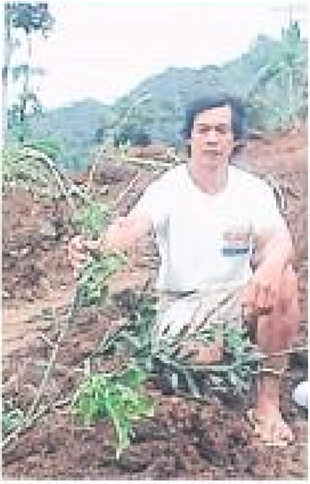


Cops say 'jueteng' workers now financiers of gambling

3 dead, 3 injured in Imus accident

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Citrus farmers restive over mining project



IN THE KNOW

Magnetite's many uses

Map of Nueva Vizcaya



Litmus test

Watershed

Shortchanged?

Promises

Republic of the Philippines

Supreme Court

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

JUDICIAL REFORM SUPPORT PROJECT

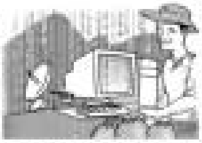
Citrus farmers restive over mining project

Complete documents

No entry

Aurora closes info gap

By Tonette Orejas



Easy reach

Neglected

Senate may probe switching of election materials in House

By TJ Burgonio, Philip C. Tubeza and Christine O. Avendaño

House security officers

'Garci' a closed book

Lacson on CD

Tribal mayor shows democracy at work in conflict resolution

Crafting a vision

Mayor's council

Where they're coming from

Transparent governance

Plans and programs

Linggoy Alcuaz out on bail

Reject terrorism, GMA urges religious leaders

Clark urges healing of religious rift

Soprano Dalisay Aldaba dies; 93

Landmine kills 3 soldiers

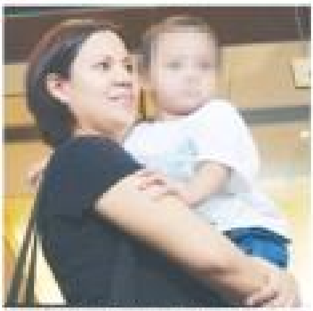


Nora Aunor to enroll in new drug program



AUNOR will continue to hold concerts.

A plus METRO



Pacquiao ducks low, denies ex-lover's charges

Immigration can't find illegal lenders; borrowers cite easy terms

SPECIAL REPORT

Eusebio sets up law and order unit

Immigration can't find illegal lenders . . .

Violation

Difficult

Requirements

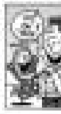
Work visa

Starting over

No qualms

MetroBriefs

A mosque in Maharlika Village



'Spies' in a bright red van

NBP head strikes back



SANDY CHRIST

[illegible]

WorldBriefs

Actress Stapleton dies at 80

[illegible]

Disgraced Korean scientist expelled

[illegible]

3 die of bird flu in Azerbaijan

[illegible]

Bush links Iran to deadly roadside bombings in Iraq

Bombs traced to Iran's Revolutionary Guard

[illegible]

Drug reduces plaque buildup in arteries

[illegible]

S. Korean PM offers to quit over golf scandal

[illegible]

The WORLD

[illegible]

STATE OF EMERGENCY

Thaksin threatens to do a GMA to quell unrest

BANGKOK—THAILAND'S PRIME MINISTER vowed Tuesday to declare an emergency if anti-government protesters in the capital turned violent, as tens of thousands massed near his office demanding he resign over corruption allegations.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was in northeastern Thailand on a campaign stop as the protesters marched on his office at Government House in Bangkok, pledging to continue peaceful protests until he steps down.

"I am ready to sign the decree if the situation becomes violent," Thaksin told reporters before conducting a Cabinet meeting via teleconference from the city of Khon Kaen. He said a decree declaring a state of emergency was "in his hands" but that it was not necessary to use it at the moment.

The marchers made their way from Bangkok's Grand Palace down a broad boulevard toward Government House, a couple of kilometers away, carrying placards reading "Change Through Peace" and "No Violence."

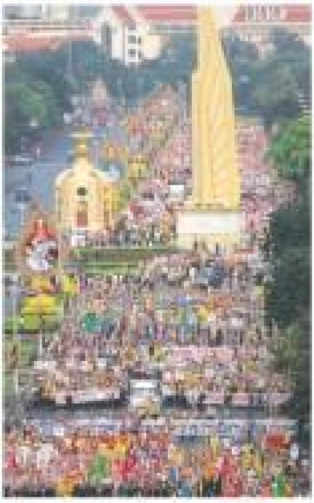
"Thaksin, Get Out!" they shouted, some of them tearing down pro-government banners near the compound.

Cabinet members meeting inside the ornate seat of government approved a 5-percent pay hike for employees of state enterprises, some of whom have joined the anti-Thaksin drive.

"I'm one of the 19 million people who voted for the wrong person. I have to correct what I did wrong," said [illegible], a 39-year-old housewife among the marchers. "I can't stand Thaksin cheating the country."

The crowd appeared to number about 100,000, according to an Associated Press reporter, but an accurate estimate was difficult. Metropolitan police spokesperson Col. [illegible] gave the number as 35,000 to 40,000, while organizers said more than 200,000 were taking part.

Tens of thousands of protesters have demanded Thaksin's resignation in regular weekend rallies, accusing the tycoon-turned-politician of corruption, mishandling a Muslim insurgency in southern Thailand, stifling the media and allowing cronies to reap gains from state policies. AP



TENS of thousands of demonstrators take to the streets of Bangkok on Tuesday, March 14. AP

Milosevic took wrong drugs, tests show

THE HAGUE—A TOP TOXICOLOGIST IN the Netherlands said that he believed Slobodan Milosevic, the former Yugoslav leader, was manipulating medication to fake a medical condition, a plan that might have played a role in the heart attack that caused his death.

That theory was advanced by Dr. Donald Uges, professor of clinical and forensic toxicology at the University of Groningen, who posited that Milosevic was seeking to demonstrate that Dutch doctors could not cure him and that he should therefore be allowed to seek treatment, and freedom, in Moscow. He was imprisoned here on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity including genocide during three Balkan wars in the 1990s.

Uges based his theory on his detection in Milosevic's blood of a drug that had not been prescribed for him and that was not only inappropriate but, under the circumstances, dangerous. He was found on his bed in the prison cell on Saturday morning.

The drug at issue is an antibiotic known as rifampicin, used to treat serious bacterial infections, such as tuberculosis. It is known to interfere with medications he was taking for high blood pressure.

An international team of doctors, including Dutch, Belgian, and Serbian forensic specialists, attended an autopsy on Sunday and said in a preliminary report that Milosevic had died of a heart attack. Their toxicology tests will be due in the coming days. New York Times News Service

Icy 'super-Earth' found around faraway star

WASHINGTON—A COLD, heavy "super-Earth" has been found orbiting a distant star, using a method that holds promise for detecting faraway planets that closely resemble our own, astronomers said on Monday.

The planet weighs 13 times as much as Earth and is orbiting a star about 9,000 light-years away. The natural of orbiting close to its star, as Earth does. This "super-Earth" is about as distant from its star as Jupiter and Saturn are from the Sun.

An international team of astronomers figured the new planet probably has a temperature of minus 201 C, making it one of the coldest planets detected outside our solar system.

The discovery is billed as a super-Earth because it is thought to be a rocky terrestrial planet like Earth, even though it is much more massive.

The planet was detected by astronomers using a project called OGLE—short for Optical Gravitational Lensing Experiment—which looks for changes in light coming from distant stars.

If another star passes between the faraway star and a telescope on Earth, the gravity of the intervening star acts like a lens and magnifies the incoming light.

When a planet is orbiting the closer star, the planet's gravity can add its own distinctive signature to the light.

This phenomenon is known as gravitational microlensing, and it has the potential to detect less massive planets than other methods of searching for planets around other stars.

The OGLE project detected the microlensing event in April. 36 astronomers working with OGLE found the signal of a planet, 9,000 light-years away in the direction of the Milky Way's central galactic bulge.

A light-year is about 10 trillion kilometers, the distance light travels in a year.

Andrew Gould, an Ohio State University professor who heads the planet-hunting group MicroFUN—short for Microlensing Follow-Up Network—said this discovery has two implications. Reuters

SPORTS



In-form Tigers stake clean slate vs Giants



COCA-COLA STAKES ITS IMMACULATE SLATE against Purefoods Chunkee, even as Red Bull and Alaska try to recover from a previous spill in the Gran Matador Brandy-PBA Philippine Cup today at the Araneta Coliseum.

Sison hooks up with Granny Goose



SISON: He's back







KEON: Disappointed

Keon plans to reclaim post as RP sports czar

By Marc Anthony Reyes

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

Bayron out front in Caddies Open

By Musong R. Castillo



RUFINO Bayron lines his putt on hole No. 14 yesterday.



ANJO'S TEAM, TOO. National Basketball Conference (NBC) president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla (second from right) and actor-TV host and Vice Mayor Anjo Yllana shake hands after finalizing the tie-up of Spring Cooking Oil and Pelotazo for the ongoing NBC tournament. Others in picture are team manager Dan Marcos (left) and coach Ron "Pong" Garcia. Spring-Pelotazo beat Bacolod Harbour Centre in its first match.

Jaguar-Land Rover golf tees off at Elena

Criterium racing goes to Pampanga

JVC Open registration ends today

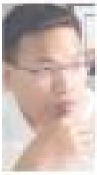
'A Big Assist for Bert and Butch' at Merck's

PBA ambivalent on cage group

In Huddle



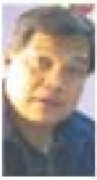
Stakeholders disagree on Fiba 'amendment'



EALA



TRINIDAD



LINA

SPORTS



Carmelo lifts Nuggets

NEW YORK—CARMELO ANTHONY poured in a game-high 35 points to guide the surging Denver Nuggets to a 108-98 victory over the New York Knicks on Monday at Madison Square Garden, their fifth win in six games.

South Korea humbles US in World Baseball Classic

Stakeholders . . .

SPORTSWATCH

Early Checkmate clinics

Uy, Santos/Araneta up

SJC 4-cock derby today

60-fight showdown set

Top breeders duke it out

ENTERTAINMENT



SIBLINGS: Ordoño, left, and Analyn Bangud in "Kalinungkong."

Long road to a reward

Indie director seeks cash prize so he can pay his two 'stars'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

IN MES DE Guzman's acclaimed film, "Ang Daan Patungong Kalinungkong," children of the Kankana-ey tribe "traverse long, winding roads… steep and slippery mountainside paths, to reach their school, 15 km from their [illegible]."

Although it's a work of fiction, "Kalinungkong" [illegible].

[illegible]

The movie [illegible]

LONG ROAD/A2-4

Marky and 'ukay-ukay' votes

By Marinel R. Cruz

WAS IT THE SO-CALLED UKAY-UKAY vote that gave Marky Cielo the title of [illegible]

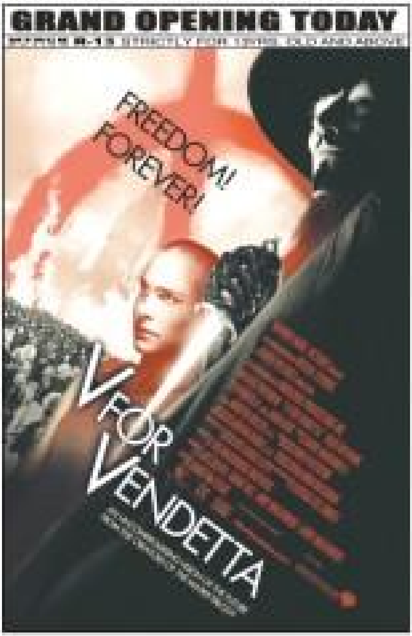


MARKY Cielo

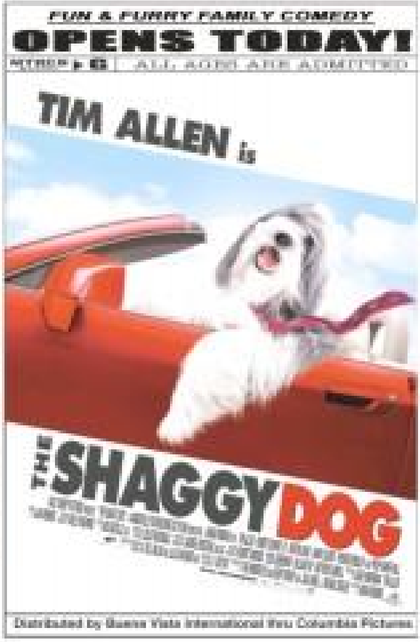
[illegible]

MARKY/A2-4









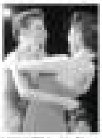
Indie director travels circuitous road



BALD beauty Aleck Bovick.

Aleck cast out of PBB house

'Failure to Launch' takes off in US, Canada



WINNER Jackie Rice (left) and [illegible]

Marky . . .

SM CINEMA

moviestime



METRO MANILA

V FOR VENDETTA
SHAGGY DOG

BREAKING NEWS
UNDERCLASS MAN
BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
16 BLOCKS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
FEARLESS
V FOR VENDETTA
SHAGGY DOG
SHE'S THE MAN
CLOSE TO YOU
THE DARK
HOUSE OF FURY

V FOR VENDETTA
SHE'S THE MAN
UNDERCLASS MAN
FEARLESS
SHAGGY DOG
16 BLOCKS
BREAKING NEWS
HOUSE OF FURY
THE DARK
BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
CLOSE TO YOU
FINAL DESTINATION 3

V FOR VENDETTA
HOUSE OF FURY
FEARLESS
RESERVED
THE DARK
SHAGGY DOG
BREAKING NEWS
SHE'S THE MAN
16 BLOCKS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
CASANOVA
CLOSE TO YOU

V FOR VENDETTA
SHAGGY DOG
16 BLOCKS
SHE'S THE MAN
FEARLESS
THE DARK
FINAL DESTINATION 3
HOUSE OF FURY
CLOSE TO YOU
CASANOVA

V FOR VENDETTA
FEARLESS
SHAGGY DOG
16 BLOCKS
HOUSE OF FURY
SHE'S THE MAN
CASANOVA
FINAL DESTINATION 3
THE DARK
RESERVED

V FOR VENDETTA
16 BLOCKS
HOUSE OF FURY
RESERVED
SHAGGY DOG
SHE'S THE MAN
FINAL DESTINATION 3
FEARLESS

V FOR VENDETTA
SHAGGY DOG
THE DARK
16 BLOCKS

V FOR VENDETTA
16 BLOCKS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
THE DARK

V FOR VENDETTA
AEON FLUX
BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
CASANOVA

V FOR VENDETTA
FINAL DESTINATION 3
SHAGGY DOG
16 BLOCKS
HOUSE OF FURY
SHE'S THE MAN

SHAGGY DOG
V FOR VENDETTA
16 BLOCKS
CLOSE TO YOU



NEW WORLD
CASANOVA
YOURS, MINE & OURS
V FOR VENDETTA

LUZON

THE DARK
FEARLESS
V FOR VENDETTA
16 BLOCKS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
CLOSE TO YOU
SHAGGY DOG
SHE'S THE MAN

V FOR VENDETTA
16 BLOCKS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
FEARLESS
CLOSE TO YOU
UNDERCLASS MAN

CASANOVA
SYRIANA
16 BLOCKS
YOURS, MINE & OURS

FEARLESS
YOURS, MINE & OURS
SAW 2
BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE

PRIME
SYRIANA
FEARLESS
YOURS, MINE & OURS

LAST HOLIDAY
FINAL DESTINATION 3
AEON FLUX
V FOR VENDETTA

V FOR VENDETTA
CASANOVA
FEARLESS
TIGER BLADE

VISAYAS MINDANAO

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
V FOR VENDETTA
NEW WORLD
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2
SOUL
16 BLOCKS
CLOSE TO YOU
FEARLESS

CASANOVA
RESERVED
BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
FEARLESS
V FOR VENDETTA
PROOF
RESERVED
16 BLOCKS

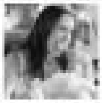
V FOR VENDETTA
FEARLESS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
FEARLESS
16 BLOCKS
AEON FLUX

BLOODRAYNE
PINK PANTHER
SYRIANA
YOURS, MINE & OURS



OPENING TODAY

She's the Man

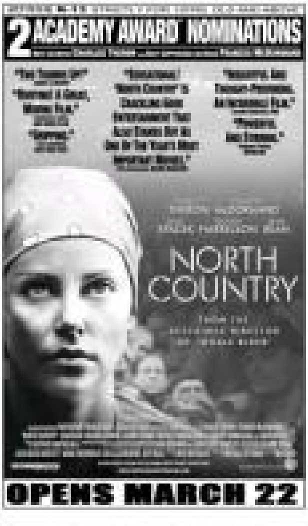




V for Vendetta



Hostel

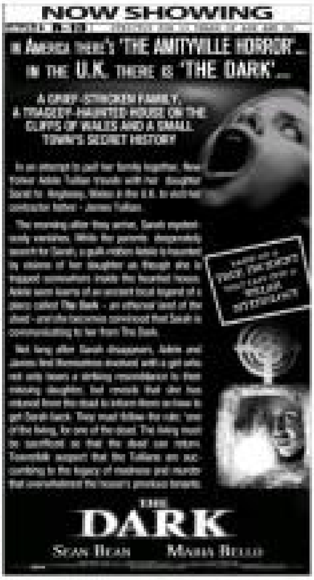


The Shaggy Dog



House of Fury

Johnnie To's Breaking News



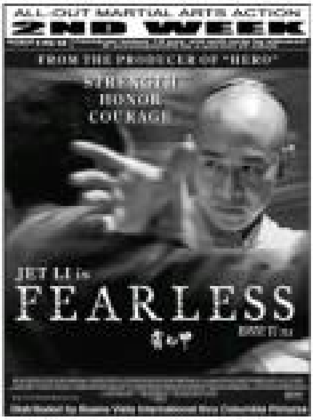
A maniacal ...

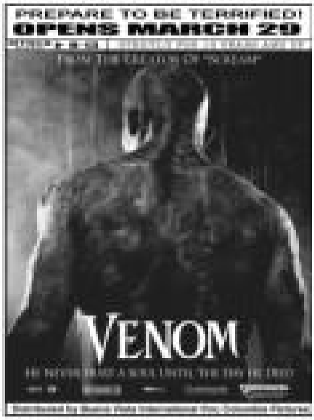
Maniacal tourist trap

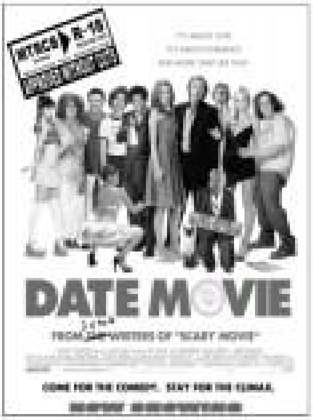
REVIEW



'Hostel' is a blood-soaked horror movie that exploits extreme shock tactics











Lessons learned on 'PBB'



Nestor U. Torre

TRL Awards

Passion unfurled

'LazyTown'



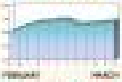
BUSINESS

Strong peso seen as threat

Exporters badly hurt by sharp rise of legal tender

LOCAL EXPORTERS YESTERDAY WARNED THAT A STRENGTHENING peso poses "a clear and present danger," threatening tens of thousands of jobs as well as small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Shares close flat

WHAT'S INSIDE

But BSP claims appreciating currency good for the economy

British company to put up ₱1.5-B ethanol plant

Scheduled to start operations next year

By Abigail L. Ho



SBMA, CDC tapped to handle investment applications



DOF probes unremitted agri taxes

Malacañang scouts for a new site

COCKTALES
Victor C. Agustin

Mike's squabbling relations

Heard through the grapevine

But BSP . . .

Strong . . .

Shares . . .

PONTIFICAL AND ROYAL

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

FOUNDED 1611

salutes and congratulates

its outstanding achievers for the Academic Year 2005-2006

STUDENT AWARDS DAY

March 15, 2006, 9:00 a.m., Education Auditorium

RECTOR'S ACADEMIC AWARD

POPE LEO XIII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AWARD

GROUP CATEGORY

BENAVIDES OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY

BENAVIDES OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

GROUP CATEGORY

QUEZON LEADERSHIP AWARD

ST. DOMINIC DE GUZMAN AWARD

SPECIAL CITATION

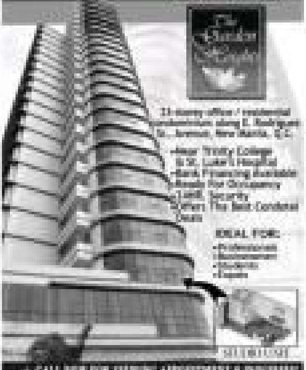
QUALITY ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORTS

2005-2006 BOARD TOPNOTCHERS

Proud to be Thomasians at 400!

7-year Treasury bonds attract ₱26B worth of bids

$3.8M worth of projects OKd for registration





Rural bank owner takes on BSP, PDIC in court

SM group holding company nets P7.1B

Retail business still the main growth driver

BPI'S POWER OF CHOICE

Phone rates reduction seen to continue on strong peso



MWSS OKs Maynilad concession bid terms

Deal attracts prospective investors

NatFoods posts 6% sales growth



Dee leads Colegio awardees



2 executive orders seen affecting vegetable trade



LIVING WITH THE FISHES

Bimp-Eaga not living up to promise, DTI official says

BUSINESS

DTI urges SMEs to go global

PDIC, BIR seek deal

MOTORING



The Mercedes-Benz Club Thailand promotes tourism via its ride-and-drive programs for fellow MB enthusiast-visitors

Toys for the rich boys with heart

By Tessa R. Salazar

IT'S A HOBBY OF THE wealthy—that's how one would dismiss collectors of classic Mercedes-Benzes.



Promoting Thai tourism

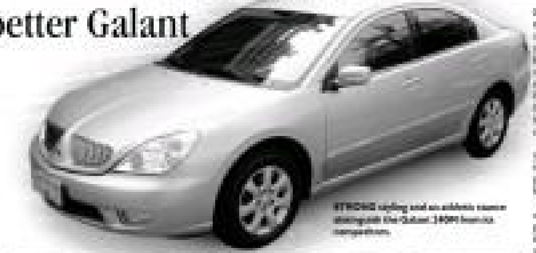
Tiny space

The bigger, better Galant

On the Road



Aida Sevilla-Mendoza



STRONG styling and an athletic stance distinguish the Galant 240M from its competitors.





Stands out

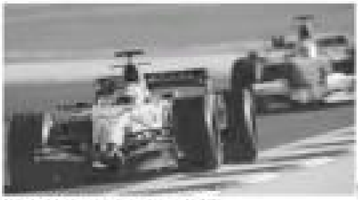
Extra smart

Liked most

2006 Volvo ownership packages made available

Choices

Volvo ownership packages



FERNANDO Alonso in action at Bahrain GP 2006

Mild Seven Renault wins in Bahrain Grand Prix



FERNANDO Alonso first on podium after Bahrain GP 2006

A lot of pride

Tough battle

Team strategy

Victory No. 1 for the team



THE WINNERS at Bahrain GP 2006

Toys for the rich boys . . .

Hobby for the wealthy!

Like living

The whole truth and nothing but…



MY DRIFT



A warehouse warning

A manufacturing glitch

One-on-one shootout

Let's heed Mendoza's appeal

FULL TANK



Al Mendoza



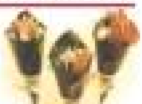
Toyota offers best deals for Innova and Altis

Flexible financing terms

Affordable package

LIFESTYLE
Editor Ma. Dolores Isabel-Fernandez
Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor

Bargain Manila



Nothing in our pages is over P100!

Part 1



We can hear you groaning. We know that these VAT-plagued times have made life extra-difficult for us. But because we love you, dear readers, we have sent out troops into the city—not to instigate rebellion—but to search for fabulous finds that are easy on the pocket. Get ready for our first serving of unbelievable bargains—great meals, beauty secrets, discount haircuts, budget dating, affordable gimmicks, great reads at a discount, tips from your favorite celebrities and other rocking bargains. And the best part is this: Not a single thing costs over P100.



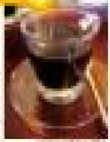
Read on.

More bargains will come your way soon (after graduation time). Watch out for Part 2 of our Bargain Manila special for the 411 on movie tickets for less, affordable fashion picks and more.

Chow *for less*

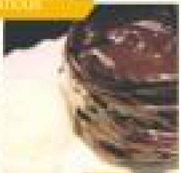
Eat to your tummy's ecstasy in these very affordable food places

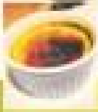
kopi roti





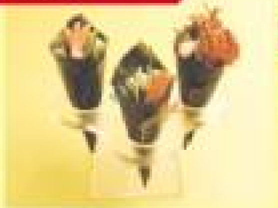
country cookhouse







sakae sushi



motorsports alley





tasty dumplings





metro phi restobar





rufo's famous tapa







crepes & cream





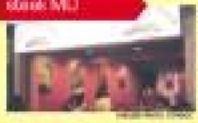
beach house



sisig



steak MD



world chicken



salmon



kebab



Chow for less

mang jimmy's



lha's food house



box o' rice



rodic's food house



ihawOne



LIFESTYLE

Beauty for a song

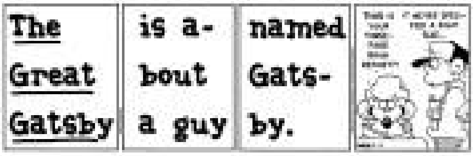
The satisfaction you get from splurging on cheap yet fun finds is priceless



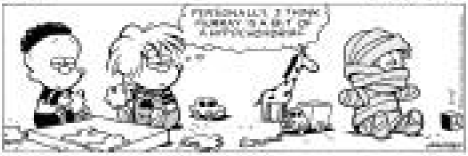
Lora Gabot



FOXTROT — BY BILL AMEND



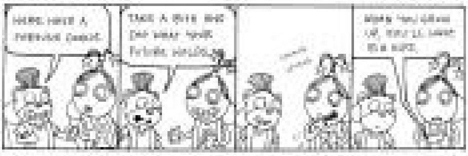
MARVIN — BY TOM ARMSTRONG



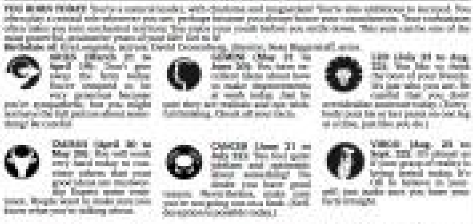
BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



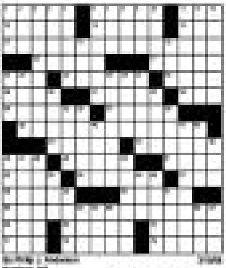
ATOMO AND WEBOT

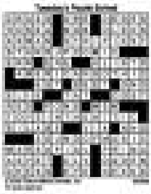


Horoscope

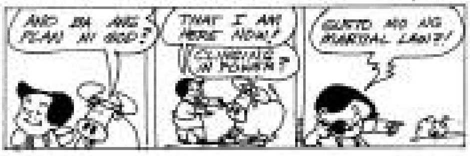


Daily Crossword

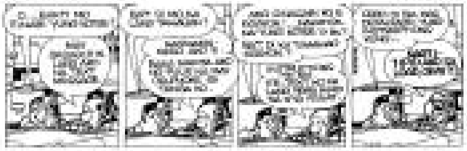




A. LIPIN — BY JESS ABRERA



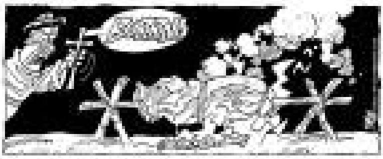
PUGAD BABOY



MUTTS — BY PATRICK McDONNELL

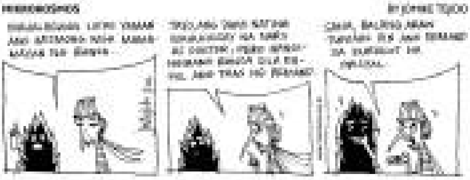


DIVINE COMEDY

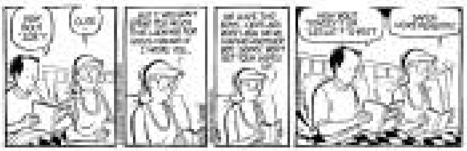


THE BURNING AT THE STAKE OF A HERETIC PIG

HIPERBOLISMOS — BY JOMIKE TEJIDO



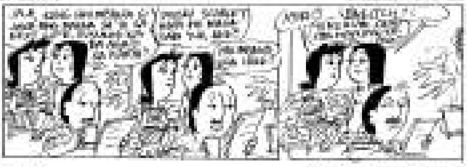
BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON

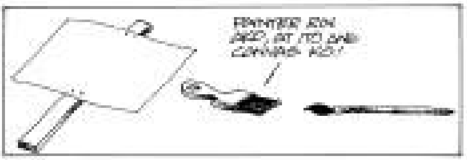


KIKO MACHINE — BY MANIX ABRERA



LOVENOTS













'Gandang 99 pesos'

From tip money to the actual haircut

I BELONG TO THAT PERCENTage of Filipinos who curb their essential expenses for the sake of vanity. I can easily part with more than a thousand bucks for skin- and haircare and endure days of having Boy Bawang for lunch.

Comeback



Great reads at reduced prices



Secondhand book shops

Recto

Garage sales

Online forums and auction sites



Beauty for a song



2bU! LIFESTYLE



You're a cheapskate, so what?



Tina Kap

Eight tips for the budget-conscious partyphile

For P100, you can...

Open bar-hopping

The 100-peso date challenge





Guys, be creative!

A truly great date should be able to appreciate your efforts, not your expenses

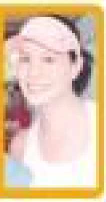


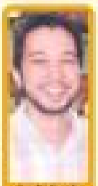
Girls, take charge!

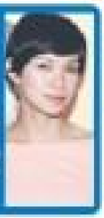


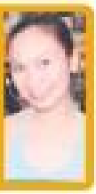
Cheap star thrills

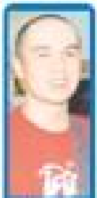
Find out how celebrities are just like you and me—sometimes

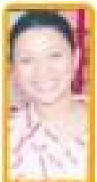
















Health & Beauty



ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT GABRIEL

EVERYONE WANTS TO BE healthy and beautiful. Well, some people say beauty is only skin deep. This is not true. Real beauty comes from within. In order for you to be beautiful on the outside you have to treat yourself right on the inside. You, truly, are what you eat. Thus, if you eat junk all the time – as opposed to a good diet, with plenty of vegetables, and fruits – your body and complexion will show it. You need your health as well as your cosmetics, your health being first and foremost on your agenda for looking good. Then, your mirror and your makeup won't have that much work. Makeup is not supposed to be a fix all, plastic surgery cure for the bad diet skin uglies. It is only used to enhance the beauty that you already have. Your glow comes from within. That is why for years, doctors, as well as our moms have always told us to get plenty of rest and exercise. Drink lots of liquids, eat all the right things, veggies and fruits. Chips and a candy bar just doesn't cut it for lunch. You can't eat like that and maintain a healthy cholesterol count. It's just not going to happen. You can't have beautiful hair and nails by eating junk and being a couch potato. Thus, all of these things must be done for you and your body as well as your mind. A healthy body and a healthy mind. It all works together for your inner beauty to shine outward. So, you don't get the beauty if you don't clean up what you are doing to your body on the inside. Ask any beauty technician and they will tell you. You can't have the beauty without the health to back it up! From the website suite101.com.

Pinoys get educated on healthy lifestyle for a healthy heart

IT MAY SOUND LIKE A CLICHÉ BUT AN ounce of prevention is indeed better than cure when it comes to dealing with heart diseases. Several factors trigger a heart disease and unfortunately some of these are irreversible, heredity and age being some. While there is nothing much one can do to change this, information on proper health and lifestyle may instead be advocated to avoid suffering a heart ailment.

In a survey on the health of Filipinos conducted by the Philippine Heart Association (PHA), it was found that the cardiovascular diseases took the top spot as one of the leading causes of death, with hypertension as one of the top triggers. What's more alarming about this is that the trend does not decline and the victims have become younger.

According to Ms. Teresa Abola, Head of the Advocacy Committee and PHA director, "About 27 percent of Filipinos who are 20 years old and above are hypertensive; many having an unhealthy lifestyle, and other risk factors like smoking, diabetes, high cholesterol blood levels, obesity and inactivity even contribute to the increased risk for heart attack and stroke. And despite various awareness campaigns that promote heart health, there seems to be no significant impact since the prevalence of such risk factors over the past five years has not significantly decreased."

Dr. Abola also mentions that the risk factors have gone to affect even as adolescents as a younger set now smoke and people in general are inclined to eat at fastfoods. "If this trend continues, we may have an 'epidemic' of cardiovascular diseases in the next ten to twenty years if not addressed properly. So we taught that prevention through advocating a healthy lifestyle is the way to go. That's why for this year's Lakad Puso, we have also included blood pressure screening and healthy lifestyle counseling among the activities that people can take part in."



The PHA celebrated Heart Month with Lakad Puso, a walk-for-life campaign that is participated in by medical colleagues, key government figures, plus interested lay people, non-government organizations and all their students as well.

With this year's celebration highlighted as "BP Awareness Day", blood pressure monitoring was held aside from the regular screenings and basic CPR demonstrations at the Metro Heart Fair. Participants were also delighted as they got a taste of Nesvita Pro Heart, the only milk with Actisol which can help lower bad cholesterol and achieve a healthy heart. Incidentally, Metro Heart Fair, with blood pressure monitoring booths of medical and paramedical staff, pharmaceutical companies, and volunteers from Rotary Clubs were also held simultaneously at churches in Metro Manila.

"We can help change the health pattern by introducing PHA's healthy lifestyle especially among the youth. That is through the combination of a healthy diet, regular exercise, proper weight, avoidance of stress and cigarette smoking. By empowering people through education, we can help them prevent heart disease or even death," Dr. Abola ends.

The Ritz Tropical Spa



THE FIRST OF ITS KIND Balinese tropical spa village in the heart of Subic Bay Freeport Zone recently opened. The Ritz Tropical Spa. [illegible]

Hype: Your lifestyle choice



A breakthrough in skin rejuvenation is here



Fitness First Fairview now open

